

Message Text

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40

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01

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R 271354 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9534

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS ROME 6032

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR IN XD

SUBJ: INDIRA GANDHI PRESS CONFERENCE IN ROME

1. IN A BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE AT ROME AIRPORT JUNE 25
PRIME MINISTER GANDHI EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE RECENTLY
SIGNED US- SOVIET ACCORDS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A LESSENING
OF TENSION IN WORLD, AND HOPE THAT THE INTERESTS OF SMALL
COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE POORER ONES, WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

2. WHEN ASKED IF SHE SAW DEVELOPMENT OF SPHERES OF INFLUENCE
IN ASIA, PM GANDHI SAID THAT SHE HOPED NOT, AND THAT INDIA IS
AGAINST " OLD- FASHIONED POLITICS OF SPHERES OF INFLUENCE",
WHICH ADD ONLY TO WORLD TENSIONS AND DETRACT FROM POSSIBILITY
OF PEACE.

3. QUERIED RE ROLE OF NON- ALIGNED NATIONS IN SEEKING PEACE,
PM SAID THAT PEACE IS MENACED BY COMPETING POWER BLOCS AND BY
THE UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC FACTORS. ACCORDING TO
PM GANDHI, NON- ALIGNED NATIONS CAN HELP THE CAUSE OF PEACE
BY BRINGING THE POWER BLOCS TOGETHER, AND BY ASSISTING OTHERS
IN REDUCING ECONOMIC DISPARITIES.

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4. ON THE SUB- CONTINENT PROBLEM, PM GANDHI REFERRED TO
INDIA/ BANGLADESH PROPOSAL FOR PRISONERS AND POPULATION EXCHANGE,
AND REVIEWED FAMILIAR INDIAN POSITIONS ON SITUATION. VOLPE

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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MOSCOW
NEA
NEW DELHI
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

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